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PATENT 2/4/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Douglas ALLARD and Andrew WILSON

Serial No.: 10/017,385

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: HIGH CAPACITY CATCH BASIN  
FILTRATION SYSTEM WITH  
ADJUSTABLE DEFLECTOR RING

Group Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: A. Pechhold

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11533.0012.CPUS05

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED DECEMBER 27, 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated **December 27, 2002**, having a shortened statutory period for response that expires on January 27, 2003 (today). Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-20 have been subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required:

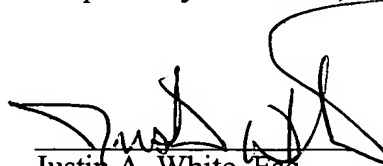
- I. Claims 1-14, drawn to the subcombination of an apparatus comprising a filtration device, a support, and an adjustable deflector ring, classified in class 405, subclass 36.
- II. Claims 15-19 drawn to the subcombination of a catch basin filtration system comprising a filtering means, a support means and a flow control means, classified in class 404, subclass 4.
- III. Claim 20 drawn to a catch basin filtration system comprising the subcombinations above and additional structure, classified in class 405 subclass 39.

The Restriction Requirement states that each pairing of Inventions I and II with respect to Invention III are related as combination and subcombination. The Restriction Requirement further states that Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. Applicants respectfully traverse the imposed Restriction Requirement.

As required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, Applicants elect at this time, with traverse, to prosecute claims 1-14 (*i.e.*, the claims to Invention I). Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15-19 (*i.e.*, the claims to Invention II) are sufficiently related to the elected claims of Invention I, such that no additional prior art search should be required beyond the search that will already be conducted for the elected claims. Accordingly, no added burden will be imposed in examining these claims at the same time that the elected claims are examined. Should such a burden nevertheless be deemed necessary, Applicants respectfully request a formal telephonic interview with the Examiner to discuss suggestions for a more appropriate set of means-plus-function claims commensurate with the elected claims.

It is believed that no fee is due at this time. Should any fee be required for any reason related to this document, however, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing Docket No. 11533.0012.CPUS05. The Examiner is hereby respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to this application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: January 27, 2003